

HISTORY OF KOAPOON CAVE TEMPLE

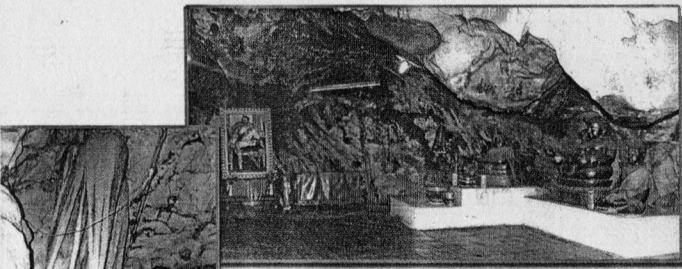
Koapoon Cave Temple is an old temple. No history document of temple is found. But it is recorded in 1870 King Rama V or King Chulalongkorn, the Great visited Koapoon Cave by waterway to worship the reclining Buddha in the cave.

Koapoon means limestone mountains. Naturally, caves occur in the limestone mountains and Koapoon Cave is one of these. It consists of 9 rooms which have been named differently as the stories of them.

1. Phra Buddha Saiyas room (Reclining Buddha room) : these is an image of Reclining Buddha:



2. Ja-Ae ROOM. It means "to meet" because this room does not connect to the others. There are several image of gods and goddesses such as Joa Mae Kuan-lm (the goddess of Chinese Buddha), Ganesha (Hindo god of wisdom), Phra Mae U-ma-te-vee (Hindo goddess of success), Indra, Phra-prom (the four faced Hindo of wishes) and Luang Poo Jun pae (the old abbot of the temple)

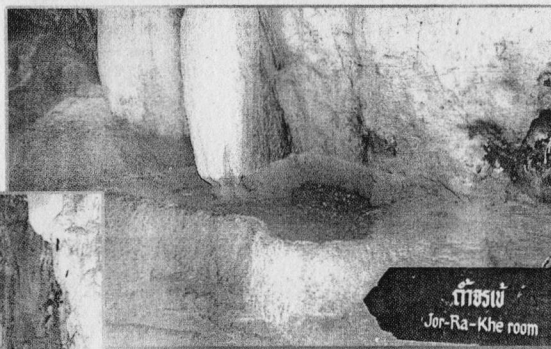


3. Mai toa rom (walking stick) The limestone crystallized post looks similar to the walking stick of an ascetic, supporting the ceiling of the room.



4. Sai-Yoi room (Weeping fig tree). Because the roots of weeping fig tree penetrates through the ceiling of the room.

5. Jor-Ra-Kha room (Crocodile room)" The rock with shape of crocodile in the basin was found in this room. But the stone crocodile had been stolen.



6. Por-poo-Rui-See room (The ascetic room) The reciting image of the ascetic is placed in this room.

7. Thape-Ni-Mitra room (God vision room), This is an image of Buddha placing in this room.

8. Kaew room (Crystal room), On the way from Thape-Ni-Mitra room to Kaew room is plenty of the wonderful Crystallized Limestone which makes it famous.

9. Thape-Prasittisopol room. A crystallized limestone in this room shapes like the elephant head with long trunk. Besides the attraction of the cave, this place concerned with the word war II. At the rear of the temple by river, the Japanese army Had used it to be the nursing camp call "Koapoon hospital". This is displayed at the JEATH Museum (The museum of World War II locates at Chaichumphol Chanasongkram, Maung, Kanchanaburi).



